

Under the provisions of 37 CFR §1.125(b) applicants submit that the Substitute Specification contains only the changes shown in the marked-up copy and does not include any new matter.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1 and 4-8 as follows:

*Sub
co* 1. (Twice Amended) A disposable diaper comprising:
a cover member having front and rear waist regions and a crotch region; and
a body fluid absorbent member attached to an inner surface of said cover member;
said body fluid absorbent member extending in a longitudinal direction across said crotch region into said front and rear waist regions, said body fluid absorbent member having front and rear end portions that are fixed to the inner surface of said cover member at said front and rear end portions thereof,
said body fluid absorbent member including a liquid-pervious topsheet to be placed against a wearer's body, a backsheet to be placed against said inner surface of said cover member, and a body fluid absorbent core disposed between the liquid-pervious topsheet and said backsheet, said body fluid absorbent member being formed on a side facing said backsheet with at least one groove that is concave in a direction from said backsheet toward said topsheet, said body fluid absorbent member having a longitudinal length that extends between and to the front and rear end portions and said at least one groove having a length that extends short of each of the front and rear end portions.

*JK/PB
8-11-03*

10/21/03
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3. (Twice Amended) ~~A~~ disposable diaper according to Claim 1, wherein said at least one groove comprises at least one first groove extending in said longitudinal direction across said crotch region into said front and rear waist regions and at least one second groove extending in a direction orthogonal to the longitudinal direction so that said at least one first groove and said at least one second groove intersect one another and said at least one second groove extends to transversely opposite side edges of said body fluid absorbent member.

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4. (Twice Amended) The disposable diaper according to Claim 1, wherein said body fluid absorbent member is formed on a side facing said topsheet with at least one further groove that is concave in a direction from said topsheet toward said backsheet and extends in said longitudinal direction across said crotch region into said front and rear regions.

5. (Twice Amended) The disposable diaper according to Claim 4, wherein said at least one further groove is positioned to be substantially aligned with said at least one groove.

6. (Twice Amended) The disposable diaper according to Claim 3, wherein said body absorbent core is disposed between said backsheet which is formed with said at least one first groove and said at least one second groove therein and the topsheet opposed to said backsheet.